## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 /088 W

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R 092116Z SEP 77 FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7210 INFO USUN NEW YORK 422 USMISSION GENEVA

CONFIDENTIAL KINGSTON 5338

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ETRD, JM

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: COMMODITIES - UNCTAD COMMON FUND MEETING NOVEMBER 7 - DECEMBER 2

REFERENCE: STATE 191312

1. COMMON FUND DECISION-MAKING IN GOJ RESTS ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY IN THE HANDS OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, TOURIST AND FOREIGN TRADE. THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE NATIONAL PLANNING AGENCY HAVE RELATIVELY MINOR ROLES. FOREIGN MINISTER PATTERSON PROVIDES THE OVERALL POLITICAL GUIDANCE AND IS THE ULTIMATE DECISION-MAKER ON MOST POLICY MATTERS. HE IS LIKELY TO CONSULT, BUT NOT SEEK THE APPROVAL OF, THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC COUNCIL WHICH INCLUDES ALL KEY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WITH ECONOMIC RESPONSIBILITIES. WITHIN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMON FUND MATTERS ARE HANDLED PRIMARILY BY THE DIRECTOR FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, JOHN PICKERSGILL, WITH OCCASIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE DIRECTOR FOR TRADE, LESLIE WILSON. THE SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER ON MOST NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES, SIR EDGERTON RICHARDSON, ASSURES OVERALL CONSISTENCY AND PROVIDES CONFIDENTIAL

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POLITICAL DIRECTION.

2. THE JAMAICAN DELEGATION TO THE COMMON FUND NEGOTIATIONS WILL PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN POLICY FORMULATION.
AMBASSADOR WALKER, THE JAMAICAN CHIEF OF DELEGATION,
SERVED AS PRESIDENT OF THE FIRST UNCTAD COMMON FUND
DISCUSSIONS AND MAY REPEAT IN THIS ROLE ACCORDING TO MFA.

IN NOVEMBER THE DELEGATION IN GENEVA WILL BE BOLSTERED BY ONE OR TWO OFFICERS AT THE TECHNICAL LEVEL AND POSSIBLY BY SIR EDGERTON RICHARDSON.NORMALLY JAMAICAN DELEGATIONS ARE GIVEN CONSIDERABLE LATITUDE IN THEIR INSTRUCTIONS AND WE BELIEVE THIS WILL LIKELY REMAIN THE CASE IN GENEVA.

3. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF A USG EXPERT WERE ABLE TO VISIT JAMAICA TO DISCUSS THE COMMON FUND IN LATE OCTOBER. MFA ECONOMIC DIRECTOR PICKERSGILL HAS INDICATED THE DESIRABILITY OF CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND JAMAICAN DELEGATIONS SOMETIME PRIOR TO THE NOVEMBER NEGOTIATIONS. WHILE PICKERSGILL HAS OBVIOUSLY NOT GIVEN THE MATTER A GREAT DEAL OF STUDY, (AND WE DID NOT ENCOURAGE THE IDEA) WE BELIEVE THAT SUCH A MEETING MIGHT USEFULLY EXPLORE POSSIBLE AVENUES FOR ACCOMMODATION AND NEGOTIATION PRIOR TO THE NOVEMBER UNCTAD MEETING.

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TAGS: ETRD, JM, UNCTAD, COMMON FUND

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